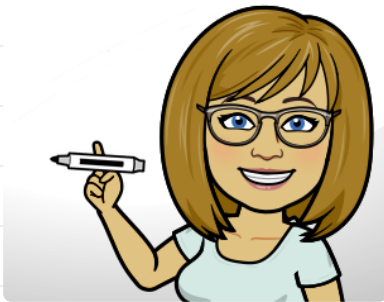


The Snow Leopard's Spot

Cascade Elementary's Monthly Newsletter - January 2024

From the Desk of Mrs. Winders



Happy New Year! Welcome back from what I hope was a very blessed, restful, and merry winter break! I for one feel energized and ready for the new year, and excited to continue to help your children grow and learn!

Many Thanks to our Community

I would like to thank all the groups and sponsors who donated their time and efforts toward making our holiday season amazing for our students. They are:

The Cascade American Legion
Cascade PTO
Pen Mar Church
The Uphold Family
Trinity Lutheran Church
St. Stephen's Church
The Fox Family
Meritus Health
The Kiwanis Club of Hagerstown
Washington County Sheriff's Department
Maryland State Police

Our school has certainly benefited from the kindness and generosity of our surrounding community. We are very grateful for their support!

New Staff at Cascade

We are so pleased to welcome the following new staff members:

Nicholas Osborne, Resident Substitute
Emily Ernst, Physical Education Teacher
Mary O'Brien, Paraprofessional
Sydney Watson, Speech Language Pathologist

Karen Martin, Cafeteria Assistant

WELCOME TO CASCADE!

Winter Weather Information

As the cold winter months are upon us, please remember that it is important for our students to get fresh air and exercise. Therefore, students will be going outside of recess if the “feels like” temperature is above 32 degrees. Please be sure to send your child with weather appropriate outerwear daily.

Please be sure you read about the “Cascade Mountain Weather Zone” below in the event of weather-related delays or closings. Since Cascade has their own weather zone, we may have a delay or closing that the county will not. To be sure, make sure to download the WCPS App and select “Cascade” as your preferred school to get alerts. Please do not call the school to ask about weather related closings as we may not be here to answer your call on those days.

End of MP2

January 12th is the end of Marking Period 2! Report cards will be available in ParentVue by January 22nd. If you need assistance with your ParentVue login, please email Mrs. Kandi at woostkan@wcps.k12.md.us.

Warm Winter Wishes,
Mrs. Winders

January Dates to Remember



Jan. 12th: End of MP2!

Report cards will be live in PARENTVUE on Jan. 22nd!



Jan. 15th: MLK Day, No School!

Students and staff have no school for Martin Luther King Day.



Jan. 16th: PD Day, No School!

Students are off school for a teacher workday.

January Lunch Menu

JANUARY 2024 LUNCH MENU

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1 NO SCHOOL	2 SOFT BEEF TACOS CHICKEN NUGGETS PIZZA MUNCHABLE 	3 CHEESE PIZZA CHICKEN NUGGETS PIZZA MUNCHABLE 	4 OVEN FRIED CHICKEN CHICKEN PATTY PIZZA MUNCHABLE 	5 CALZONE CHICKEN PATTY PIZZA MUNCHABLE 
8 CHEESE BURGER NACHO GRANDE SNACK PACK 	9 TURKEY SUB NACHO GRANDE SNACK PACK 	10 CHEESE PIZZA NACHO GRANDE SNACK PACK 	11 PANCAKES & SAUSAGE NACHO GRANDE SNACK PACK 	12 MOZZARELLA CHEESE STICKS NACHO GRANDE SNACK PACK 
15 NO SCHOOL	16 NO SCHOOL	17 CHEESE PIZZA CHICKEN PATTY PIZZA MUNCHABLE 	18 MASHED POTATO BOWL CHICKEN PATTY PIZZA MUNCHABLE 	19 CHEESY BREADSTICKS CHICKEN PATTY PIZZA MUNCHABLE 
22 MEATBALL SUB NACHO GRANDE SNACK PACK 	23 CORN DOG NACHO GRANDE SNACK PACK 	24 CHEESE PIZZA NACHO GRANDE SNACK PACK 	25 FRENCH TOAST & SAUSAGE NACHO GRANDE SNACK PACK 	26 LASAGNA NACHO GRANDE SNACK PACK 
29 ROTINI W/ MEAT SAUCE CHICKEN NUGGETS PIZZA MUNCHABLE 	30 SOFT BEEF TACOS CHICKEN NUGGETS PIZZA MUNCHABLE 	31 CHEESE PIZZA CHICKEN NUGGETS PIZZA MUNCHABLE 	MEALS INCLUDE ENTRÉE, 2 FRUIT, 2 VEG & MILK.	

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.



Collect and Scan Box Tops!

Don't forget that Box Tops is a fast and easy way for you to support Cascade Elementary School!

Here's how you can help us reach our goal:

- Buy Box Tops products, scan your receipt with the Box Tops app within 14 days of purchase and earn for Cascade Elementary School with every Box Tops product you buy.
- Refer your friends, family and other parents in the school to download the app. You'll even get Bonus Box Tops for our school with each referral that successfully scans their first receipt!
- Turn on notifications in your Box Tops app to get scan reminders and stay updated on special offers, new products and opportunities to earn for our school. Go to your Communications Settings by tapping on the person icon in the upper-right corner of the app.



Let's give our teachers the support they need and give more kids the opportunity to dream. Little by little, we can help make a big difference!

From the Cascade PTO

Welcome! We are so excited to have the ability to serve our wonderful school, staff, and families! Our meetings are typically held on the third Tuesday of every month via Google Meet or in person at our school. We are always searching for new members and volunteers to help us out with all of

our events, so if you haven't already, PLEASE JOIN US! The membership fee is \$5.00, and with that membership you are provided voting rights for all topics discussed at our meetings.

Our next meeting is being held **Wednesday, January 17th** in person or via Google Meet at 5:00 pm:
<https://meet.google.com/qkm-khna-asj> .

Thank you to everyone who supported all of our events this holiday season! We had multiple fundraisers including Vince's Pizza night, Country Meats Beef Sticks, Spirit Wear and Holiday Ornament sales, and Holiday Hellos have been a hit!

We would also like to thank the Cascade American Legion for helping us host a wonderful Holiday Party! Students and staff had a great time and it was a wonderful way to start the holiday season.

You may contact us anytime at cascadeppto1@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!

Click here to join the Cascade PTO!

You may contact the new PTO at: cascadeppto1@gmail.com!

Staff Member of the Month

CASCADE ELEMENTARY'S STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH DECEMBER



Madison Evers

Grade 4 Teacher

Congratulations to Mrs. Evers for being our Staff Member of the Month for December! Mrs. Evers is always ready to jump in and help whenever needed! She is incredibly thoughtful, and does everything with a smile! We are so lucky to have her here at Cascade! Congratulations Mrs. Evers! #cascadestaffrocks

Mrs. Breakall's Counselor Corner

New Attendance Incentives

This year, we have started a new attendance initiative! For each day your student comes to school, they will receive 1 punch on their card. When all 10 punches are filled, the card gets entered for a chance to win 4 snow tubing tickets for your family! Your child also receives \$10 to spend at our school store! We want to give a huge thanks to our PTO for supplying our attendance prizes this year!

PBIS = Cascade P.R.I.D.E

Our November PBIS activity was creating a Thanksgiving Tree! Students and staff wrote what they were thankful for on leaves and the tree is proudly displayed near our cafeteria.

Our school pledge is: Cascade Takes P.R.I.D.E.: We are... Prepared and positive every day! Respectful to myself and others! Important and valued! Determined and display self-control! Excellent and empathetic! Look for these pledges posted throughout our school, and for student incentives to be based on their positive behavior!

Cascade School Store

Our school store is ready for students to use their Leopard Loot to redeem prizes such as: school supplies, water bottles, bracelets, stuffed animals and more! Staff and students will nominate 1-2 students from each class to be chosen as our Student(s) of the Month. These students will get a special lunch with staff in addition to a certificate, necklace, pencil and prize! We will post these winners on our Facebook page!

Cascade Food Pantry

The Cascade Food Pantry is open every other Wednesday all school year. For the month of January those dates are January 3rd, 17th, and the 31st, from 3:00 - 5:00 pm!

As always, please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs. Breakall

Cascade School Hours and Dismissal Procedures

School doors open at 7:35 a.m. The tardy bell rings at 7:55 a.m., tardy students must be signed in by a parent/guardian. Student dismissal is at 2:25 p.m.

Upon arrival either by bus or private transportation, all students will enter through the cafeteria doors when they open at 7:35 am. Students arriving by car before 7:35 am, must park in the parking lot as the bus loop will be unavailable to cars until 7:45 am.

After the tardy bell rings at 7:55 am, all students and visitors must enter the building through the main entrance. Students arriving late must be signed in by a parent/guardian.

Student dismissal is at 2:25 pm. Please do not pull into the bus loop until all four buses have pulled through first. Students will be brought out to cars and released to parents after the buses leave.



The school office hours are Monday-Friday, 7:00 am - 3:00 pm.

WCPS Early Dismissal Procedures

WCPS has recently amended the policy that will **only** allow a release of student during their instructional day with a parent note. The parent or guardian must provide written notice to the school if a student is to be released during the school day. No blanket notes will be accepted. The note must identify the **name of the person** who will be picking the student up. The person picking up the child **MUST** have their **photo ID** when coming to the school. In the event of an emergency, please contact the school to make arrangements. As always, you may email Mrs. Kandi with your early dismissal note as well at woostkan@wcps.k12.md.us. Thank you for helping us keep your child safe!

Cascade Mountain Weather Zone



Washington County Public Schools has a policy which allows the Cascade Elementary School attendance area to either be delayed, closed, or to dismiss early, in the event of inclement weather. This zone was determined by the conditions in the higher elevations surrounding Cascade Elementary School affecting elementary, middle and high school students. With the increased attendance area, it is important to clarify who is affected by a decision to implement a schedule change due to inclement weather in the

area identified as the Cascade Mountain Weather Zone (CMWZ).

Please be sure to download the WCPS mobile app is available at the iTunes Store or Google Play by searching for "Washington County PS." The app is a free download and can be customized so that parents can see information from the schools their children attend.

Cascade Mountain Weather Zone

Covid Guidelines for Parents



Covid Guidelines for Parents

As we head into cold and flu season, WCPS has updated their Covid protocols so we are in accordance with guidance provided by the Maryland State Department of Education and the Maryland Department of Health. At this time schools will not be testing for, or contact tracing for Covid-19. Parents who suspect that their child or family members are positive are encouraged to contact their primary care physician and follow their guidance for return to school dates. You may read more [here](#).

WCPS Calendar for 2023-2024

Cascade Elementary School Website



Contact Cascade Elementary

Email: woostkan@wcps.k12.md.us

Website: <https://cascadeelementary.weebly.com/>

Location: [14519 Pennersville Road, Highfield-Cascade, MD, USA](#)

Phone: [301-766-8066](tel:301-766-8066)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cascadeschool>



Kandi Wooster

Kandi is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters